



Hanford Advisory Board

# 2021 Annual Report

## The Hanford Advisory Board

The Hanford Advisory Board (HAB, Board) is a non-partisan, broadly representative body consisting of 37 member seats interested in the cleanup of the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) complex, located in southeastern Washington state, where plutonium was produced for the national defense effort during World War II and the Cold War. The HAB works to provide consensus advice to DOE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), collectively known as the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) agencies, on major policy issues related to the cleanup of the Hanford Site.

The HAB was chartered in 1994 by DOE under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The HAB is one of eight local site citizen advisory boards that make up the DOE Office of Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board. The purpose of the charter and development of the HAB is to provide a forum for bringing together diverse views, cultures, and demographics from communities and regions affected by Hanford Site cleanup activities.



## Chair's Message: 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic and the protocols required to ensure the health and safety of everyone involved with the HAB made it impossible to meet in person in 2021. The dedicated HAB volunteers, supported by DOE, EPA, and Ecology, provided resources so that the HAB could meet virtually and continue its work.

We thank all the support staff and management for quickly responding and managing the extraordinary challenges that we all faced in 2021. Board members stepped up to the plate as well, continuing to adapt to new technology and providing substantial, informed pieces of advice to the TPA agencies. HAB meetings are open to the public and will continue virtually until it has been determined to be safe to meet in person.



Steve Wiegman, HAB Chair

## At a Glance

### What is the Hanford Advisory Board?

The Hanford Advisory Board has the following attributes:

- **Mission oriented:** The primary mission of the HAB is to provide informed recommendations and consensus advice to the TPA agencies on major policy issues related to Hanford Site cleanup.
- **Policy focused:** The HAB focuses on difficult policy-level issues associated with a long history of plutonium production and the resulting contamination from radioactive and chemical waste.
- **Diverse:** The HAB is made up of 37 member seats representing a variety of constituencies from local interests, environmental perspectives, business groups, tribal nations, public health representatives, state of Oregon officials, university professionals, public-at-large representatives, and the Hanford workforce.
- **Collaborative:** The HAB operates by consensus.
- **Dedicated:** The HAB has provided 310 pieces of consensus advice to the TPA agencies over the last 27 years.
- **Robust:** The HAB maintains six standing committees that routinely meet throughout the year to discuss issues of relevance to the Site's cleanup.
- **Inviting:** All HAB meetings are open to the public. The HAB actively reaches out to different communities to increase awareness of and involvement in Hanford cleanup. More information about the HAB, including all HAB advice, responses, and correspondence can be found at [www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hab](http://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hab).

## Advice in 2021

The HAB adopted two pieces of advice in 2021. To read the advice, along with the TPA agency responses in their entirety, visit [www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hab](http://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hab).

### Advice #309

#### Fiscal Year 2023 Hanford Cleanup Priorities

Adopted March 17, 2021

### Advice #310

#### Public Involvement in Vision and Guiding Documents

Adopted June 14, 2021

## Letters in 2021

Even when it is not developing advice, the HAB remains continually engaged with the TPA agencies and Hanford Site activities, as well as activities affecting the DOE Complex overall. It issued the following letters over the course of the year, which can be read in their entirety at <https://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hab/OutgoingBoardCorrespondence>.

### 2021O-001

#### Request to Confirm New HAB Chair

Issued January 5, 2021

### 2021O-002

#### Request to Participate in Review of Bids for Hanford Advisory Board Facilitation

Issued January 28, 2021

### 2021O-003

#### Transmittal of Key Questions from March Meetings

Issued March 22, 2021

### 2021O-004

#### Tank and Pipeline Integrity Program Letter of Appreciation

Issued June 14, 2021

### 2021O-005

#### Hanford Advisory Board Endorsement of DOE-EM Site-Specific Advisory Board Documents

Issued December 21, 2021

## Committees of the Board

The Board is composed of six committees that typically meet or hold conference calls monthly. At the committee level, members work on complex issues that are the underpinnings of the policies governing cleanup at Hanford. The committees develop draft advice based on shared information, discussion, and Board values. They then develop consensus on specific advice points. Once advice has committee consensus, the committee brings it to the full Board for consideration and possible adoption.

The Board's two technical committees, the River and Plateau Committee (RAP) and the Tank Waste Committee (TWC), are responsible for understanding and tracking current and planned cleanup work. Three other committees, the Budgets and Contracts Committee (BCC), Health, Safety, and Environmental Protection Committee (HSEP), and Public Involvement and Communications Committee (PIC) are tasked with tracking broader, sitewide issues. The Board chair and vice chair and the committee chairs and vice chairs convene as the Executive Issues Committee (EIC) to address leadership issues.

Committee activities fall under an overall work plan that identifies priority topics for discussion. Topics are brought forward as they are timely through collaborative discussions with committee members, TPA agency representatives, and Hanford Site contractors. Within a committee, individuals self-identify as issue managers when they have a strong interest or expertise in a particular cleanup issue and wish to work with the TPA agency content experts and committee leadership to research and frame topics for committee discussions. Issue managers act on behalf of the committee and typically take the lead on advice development.

### 2021 Board and Committee Leadership

#### Board Leadership

**Chair:** Steve Wiegman, Public at Large

**Vice Chair:** Shelley Cimon, Columbia Riverkeeper

#### National Liaison

Pam Larsen, Benton County

#### River and Plateau Committee

**Chair:** Tom Sicilia, Oregon Department of Energy

**Vice Chair:** Jan Catrell, WA League of Women Voters

#### Tank Waste Committee

**Chair:** Bob Suyama, Benton County

**Vice Chair:** Susan Leckband, WA League of Women Voters

#### Health, Safety, and Environmental Protection Committee

**Chair:** Becky Holland, Hanford Atomic Metal Trades

**Vice Chair:** Richard Bloom, City of West Richland

#### Budgets and Contracts Committee

**Chair:** Tom Galioto, Tri-City Development Council (TRIDEC)

**Vice Chair:** Emmitt Jackson, Non-Union, Non-Management Employees

#### Public Involvement and Communications Committee

**Chair:** Jeff Burrright, Oregon Department of Energy

**Vice Chair:** Dan Solitz, Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board

## Getting Involved with Board Work

If you're interested in the Board's work or in learning more about cleanup at the Hanford Site, there are several ways that you can stay involved and informed:

**Talk to your Board member** — There are 37 seats on the Board representing perspectives from local governments, the Hanford workforce, public health and environmental organizations, universities, the public-at-large, and tribal nations. Talk to a representative to learn more and to share your thoughts. Current membership lists are maintained on the Hanford Advisory Board's website ([www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hab](http://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hab)).

**Attend a HAB meeting** — If you are interested in learning about HAB work and cleanup at Hanford, consider attending a Board or committee meeting. HAB and committee meetings are open to the public and occur almost monthly throughout the year. Meetings are held in Richland and information on upcoming meetings can be found on the Hanford website ([www.hanford.gov](http://www.hanford.gov)) under the Event Calendar.

**Become a member** — Each seat on the Board consists of a primary member and an alternate. As seats become open, individual organizations or interest groups nominate replacements. For more information on the process of becoming a member of the HAB, visit: [www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hab](http://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hab).

### Did you know...?

In 2021, HAB members met for 4 Board meetings and 17 committee meetings? Check out the events calendar at [Hanford.gov](http://Hanford.gov) for a full list of upcoming HAB events. Remember: all Board meetings are open to the public!

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## Contacts

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### HAB Library and Facilitation

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